22nd November 1948]

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" (a) Yes; a petition from the hon. Member was received by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.

" (b) The allegations made in the petition have been inquired into and a report of the enquiry has been received.

" (c) The nature of the action to be taken is under consideration."

Proposal to close down the museum in the Pudukottai State.

* 107 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a museum in the Pudukottai State which has since been merged in the Madras Province;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to close down the museum;

(c) if so, what arrangements are proposed to be made to safeguard the antiquities and where they are proposed to be kept;

(d) whether it is a fact that they are archæologically very valuable for the study of monuments in the State; and

(e) what facilities are being offered to scholars who wish to study these antiquities in relation to the monuments?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—

" (a) Yes.

" (b) The answer is in the negative.

" (c) Does not arise.

" (d) The antiquities no doubt serve to create interest in the monuments of Pudukkottai.

" (e) The Government of India will give the scholars all the facilities which they give in other parts of India to study the ancient monuments and the antiquities relating to them, when the ancient monuments of Pudukottai are taken over by the Department of Archaeology of the Government of India. The Government are not aware whether any scholar has applied for such facilities in the transitional period."

Hostels for the students in the City.

* 108 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the steps taken by the Government in order to implement the recommendation of the Housing Committee to establish hostels for the students studying in the City of Madras;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the accommodation provided for in the hostels attached to some of the colleges is quite insufficient for all the students studying therein; and